

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

HANNIBAL, MISSOURI, MAN INDICTED ON FEDERAL WEAPONS CHARGE

ST. LOUIS, Missouri: Michael E. Charlton was indicted on federal charges of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway, Ralls County Prosecuting Attorney Rodney Rodenbaugh and Ralls County Sheriff Ben Berghager announced today.

“This office will make every effort to assist Prosecutor Rodenbaugh and Sheriff Berghager in taking guns out of the hands of convicted felons,” said Hanaway.

Charlton, 44, 2700 block of Market, Hannibal, Missouri, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm, stemming from his possession of a rifle on November 18, 2006, near 55456 Seeley Lane, located in Ralls county. Due to his previous felony convictions, Charlton is forbidden by law to possess a firearm. The indictment was returned on February 1, but remained sealed until the arrest of Mr. Charlton earlier today.

If convicted, the maximum penalty is ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000.

In addition to the Ralls County Sheriff’s Department, this case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.